Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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P 111602Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0292 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 07410

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, ETRD, ASEC, UR

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF INTOURIST OFFICES IN NEW YORK

REF: STATE 82110 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. AMEXCO MOSCOW DEPUTY REP MARSCHALKO SHOWED COMATT COPY OF TELEX DATED APRIL 10 ADDRESSED TO SENIOR REP TEDESCO (WHO HAS BEEN IN WESTERN EUROPE FOR PAST TEN DAYS) FROM CORD HANSEN-STURM IN NEW YORK. HANSEN-STURM INFORMS TEDESCO THAT INTOURIST WAS TO HAVE SIGNED LEASE IN ROCKEFELLER CENTER SAME DAY (APRIL 10), PRESUMABLY FOR SPACE ON EIGHTH FLOOR, ALTHOUGH TELEX WAS NOT CLEAR ON THAT POINT. HANSEN-STURM INSTRUCTS TEDESCO, HOWEVER, TO "WORK OUT ASAP DIRECTLY WITH WORLD TRADE CENTER OFFICIALS THE REQUEST FOR HANDLING SATELLITE OFFICE." THUS, POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT INTOURIST MAY BE CONTEMPLATING SIGNING LEASE FOR EIGHTH FLOOR OFFICE SPACE NOW, WITH PROSPECT OF LATER RENTAL OF GROUND LEVEL SMALLER OFFICE WITH WINDOWS ON STREET.
- 2. THRUST OF HANSEN-STURM TELEX IS THAT THINGS ARE NOW MOVING FOR INTOURIST IN NEW YORK AND THUS THEY CAN BE CONFIDENTIAL.

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EXPECTED TO DO SAME IN MOSCOW. (TEDESCO HAD EARLIER PROVIDED US WITH COPY OF LETTER FROM HIM TO PRESIDENT LEBEDEV OF INTOURIST DATED MARCH 23 IN WHICH TEDESCO CONFIRMED AMEXCO'S ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE SPACE AT 21 SADOVAYA KUDRINSKAYA UPON FULFILLMENT BY INTOURIST OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS. AMONG THEM:

- -- THAT INTOURIST WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS OVER NEXT TWO YEARS TO FIND SPACE FOR AMEXCO IN CENTRAL TOURIST DISTRICT OF MOSCOW:
- -- THAT AMEXCO RETAINS OPTION OF RENTING AN ADDITIONAL SMALL LOCATION IN WORLD TRADE CENTER WHEN COMPLETED;
- -- THAT RENT FOR SPACE AT 21 SADOVAYA KUDRINSKAYA WOULD NOT EXCEED 15,000 RUBLES PER YEAR (APPARENTLY ALREADY AGREED TO DURING CLARK'S VISIT TO MOSCOW IN MARCH):
- -- THAT AMEXCO COULD REDECORATE ACCEPTED SPACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMPANY PRACTICE ELSEWHERE IN WORLD, INCLUDING HANGING OF DISCREET SIGNS ON OUTSIDE OF BUILDING: ONE LARGE SIGN TO BE ILLUMINATED AND PERPENDICULAR TO BUILDING.
- 3. MARSCHALKO SAID THAT AMEXCO HIGH COMMAND HAD BEEN TOLD BY SOVIETS THAT RETURN OF HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE MUST AWAIT POSITIVE RESOLUTION OF INTOURIST'S SPACE PROBLEMS IN NEW YORK.
- 4. WE PRESUME THAT DEPARTMENT WILL BE APPRISED OF THIS LATEST DEVELOPMENT BY HANSEN-STURM DIRECTLY. HE HAD, INCIDENTALLY, AGREED TO FILL US IN ON RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS HERE BUT LEFT MOSCOW WITHOUT DOING SO. MOREOVER, HIS SIGNALS WERE DECIDEDLY MIXED DURING HIS STAY, SO WE ELECTED TO STAY OUT OF PICTURE UNTIL WATER CLEARED. APPARENTLY, IT NOW HAS.
- 5. PLEASE ADVISE. TOON CONFIDENTIAL

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